

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2908

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 4938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PGOV, JO, US, XF

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN DEMARCHE ON ISRAELI WEST BANK ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY: JORDANIAN MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUMMONED NON-ARAB AMBASSADORS FOR DEMARCHE ON RECENT ISRAELI ACTIVITIES ON WEST BANK. PRINCIPAL COMPLAINT WS THAT ISRAELIS ARE MOVING TO ANNEX TERRITORY IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. JORDANIANS THANKED THOSE STATES WHICH HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO ISRAELI ACTIVITIES AND URGES THOSE WHICH HAVE NOT TO OPPOSE ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN ANY APPRIATE WAY. END SUMMARY

1. MINISTER OF STATE HASAN IBRAHIM CALLED IN AMBASSADORS FROM NON-ARAB COUNTRIES AUGUST 22 TO RECEIVE MEMORANDUM AND ORAL DEMARCHE FROM GOJ ON ISRAELI ACTIVITIES ON WEST BANK. ARAB AMBASSADORS, ACCORDING TO PRESS, RECEIVED SAME APPROACH YESTERDAY. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. IBRAHIM PRESENTED WRITTEN MEMORANDUM (TEXT BY AIRGRAM) WHICH SUMMARIZED JORDANIAN CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING RECENT ISRAELI ACTIVITIES ON WEST BANK AS FOLLOWS:

A) ISRAELI "EQUALIZATION OF SERVICES" IN VARIOUS AREAS MEANS THAT ISRAELI LAW IS TO

REPLACE JORDANIAN LAW ON THE WEST BANK IN CONNECTION WITH THE RELEVANT SERVICE;
B) WEST BANK MUNICIPALITIES WILL BE STRIPPED OF THEIR POWERS TO PROVIDE RELEVANT SERVICES AND SUCH POWER WILL BE HANDED TO THE MILITARY GOVERNORS IN THE WEST BANK;
C) REFUGEE CAMPS WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO ORDINARY CIVILIAN AREAS THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING PROJECTS FOR REFUGEES SITUATED NEAR CITIES. (JORDAN MEMO CITES ISRAELI NEWSPAPER REPORT OF AUGUST 16.)
D) THE EQUALIZATION OF SERVICES TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, LEAVING OUT SINAI AND THE GOLAN, IS IN ACCORD WITH BEGIN ELECTION POSITION OF CONSIDERING THE WEST BANK AND GAZA AS PARTS OF ISRAEL;
E) THE DECISION IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD FINAL ANNEXATION OF THE WEST BANK AND GAZA WHICH WILL INCLUDE FULL APPLICATION OF ISRAELI LAW AND TAXES, MAKING MUNICIPALITIES AND VILLAGE COUNCILS "TOOLS OF ENFORCEMENT" FOR THE MILITARY GOVERNORS RATHER THAN LAW-MAKING OR RULE-MAKING BODIES, AND TURNING ARAB CIVILIANS IN THE WEST BANK INTO ISRAELI SUBJECTS WITHOUT THE ENJOYMENT OF ANY POLITICAL RIGHTS;
F) ISRAELI ANNEXATION MEASURES UNDERCUT THE "JORDANIAN OR PLO CLAIM" ON THE WEST BANK.
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3. THE MEMORANDUM GOES ON TO DISCUSS PAYMENT FOR SERVICES AND ISRAELI OPPOSITION IN THE KNESSET TO THE STEP. THE MEMORANDUM CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT JORDAN CONSIDERS THE ISRAELI DECISION AS A NEW AND DANGEROUS STEP ON THE WAY TO ANNEXATION, AS "AN OUTRAGEOUS VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW," AND AS ANOTHER OBSTACLE TO FACILITATE PRESENT EFFORTS TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A PERMANENT, PEACEFUL, AND JUST SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. JORDAN HOPES FRIENDLY STATES WILL EXPRESS THEIR INDIGNATION AND OBJECTION OVER THE ISRAELI DECISION AND ITS ENFORCEMENT.

4. IN ORAL PRESENTATION IBRAHIM THANKED THE EC-9 STATES AND ALL OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED A POSITION OPPOSED TO THE ISRAELI DECISION. HE RECALLED THREE RECENT ISRAELI NEGATIVE ACTIONS IN THE WEST BANK--THE "LEGALIZATION" OF THREE SETTLEMENTS, THE "EQUALIZATION" STEPS, AND THE CREATION OF THREE NEW SETTLEMENTS--

TERMING THEM ALL OBSTACLES TO A PEACE SETTLEMENT.
HE SAID ISRAEL IS MOVING TO ANNEX THE TERRITORY,
THAT ARAB AND OTHER STATES OBJECTED STRONGLY, AND
THAT JORDAN URGES OTHERS TO DECLARE THEIR VIEWS
AGAINST SUCH STEPS TO INCREASE ISRAEL'S ISOLATION
IN THESE MOVES. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED ARAB CON-
TINUED WILLINGNESS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND
PRAISED PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS AND
SECRETARY VANCE'S RECENT VISIT TO THE AREA
WHICH JORDAN BELIEVED INTRODUCED MAJOR NEW
ELEMENTS INTO THE PEACE PROCESS AND WHICH JORDAN
FULLY SUPPORTED. IBRAHIM NOTED THAT PALESTINIAN
REPRESENTATION WAS STILL A PROBLEM AND AN
OBSTACLE AND CONCLUDED BY ASKING ALL AMBASSADORS
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TO READ JORDANIAN MEMORANDUM AND REPORT IT TO
THEIR GOVERNMENTS.

5. THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR CLARIFICA-
TION AS TO WHETHER JORDAN WAS
REQUESTING OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE A POSITION ON
THESE ISRAELI STEPS AND IBRAHIM REPLIED IN
THE AFFIRMATIVE. I THANKED IBRAHIM FOR HIS KIND
WORDS ON U.S. EFFORTS TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SITUATION
TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM AND INDICATED I WOULD
REPORT HIS APPROACH TO WASHINGTON. THE GERMAN
AMBASSADOR, ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9, MADE
A SIMILAR STATEMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: ANY REPLY WHICH THE DEPART-
MENT MIGHT WISH TO PRESENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
JORDAN.
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